

Message Text

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10/42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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R 061130 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASDY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9768

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL JEC PARIS

S E C R E T SAIGON 5817

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECT TEXT OMISSION PARAGRAPH 2.)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR VS

SUBJECT: POLDEL REACTION TO DEPARTMENT' S PROTEST OF MARCH 30.

REF: SAIGON 5720

1. AT REQUEST OF POLDEL, EMBOFFS LUNCHEd APRIL 6 WITH POLITICAL ADVISERS HERBERT KUSNIERZ AND STANISLAW MALICKI. POLES RESTRAINED THEMSELVES UNTIL COFFEE WAS SERVED, AND THEN INTRODUCED IN QUIET BUT DELIBERATE FASHION SUBJECT OF DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH' S PROTEST TO POLISH CHARGE MARCH 30 RE POLISH OBSTRUCTIONISM IN ICCS.
2. POLES ATTEMPTED TO PURSUADE EMBOFFS POLISH RECORD ON COMMISSION WAS GOOD AND THAT IN FACT IT WAS CANDEL WHICH HAD BEEN REAL OBSTRUCTIONISTS. AS EVIDENCE THEY CITED APRIL 5 PLENARY WHEN CONDAL REFUSED IN FACE OF DESIRE OF OTHER THREE TO SEND LETTER TO FPJMC ON TONG LE CHAN (SEE SAIGON SITREP APRIL 6). POLES CHARGED CANDEL WOULD NOT ACCEPT THAT COMMISSION HAD RESPONSIBILITY TO ATTEMPT TO BRING TWO PARTIES TOGETHER, AND THAT CANDEL MAINTAINED INVESTIGATIONS WERE THE ONLY RESPONSIBILITY ICCS HAD BEEN ASSIGNED. POLDEL FURTHER EMPLOYED, AS EVIDENCE OF CANDEL OBSTRUCTIONISM, CANDEL' S REFUSAL OF LAST WEEK AGAIN
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IN FACE OF POSITION OF OTHER THREE, TO ORDER A REINVESTIGATION OF SA HUYNH. POLES ALSO ACCUSED CANDEL OF INTIMIDATING COMMISSION BY, FOR EXAMPLE, THREATENING TO REPORT TO ITS GOVERNMENT

CASES OF ALLEGED OBSTRUCTIONISM ON THE PART OF POLISH DELEGATION. POLES ALSO ACCUSED CANDEL OF HARASSING INDODEL TO FORCE LATTER TO SUPPORT CANDEL POSITIONS IN PLENARY. POLES INDICATED CANADIANS HAD FREQUENTLY BEEN DISHONEST IN THEIR ACCUSATIONS, CITING THE EXAMPLE OF CANADIANS HAVING STATED POLDEL HAD FAILED TO PARTICIPATE IN 21 OF 22 INVESTIGATIONS IN REGION VI (MY THO). POLES STATED THEY ARE NOW PREPARING DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THIS CHARGE AND WILL PRESENT FULL REBUTTAL " WITHIN A FEW DAYS"

- AND PROMISED TO INFORM EMBOFFS OF NATURE THIS STUDY. SOME OF BITTEREST REMARKS WERE RESERVED FOR CANDEL CHIEF OF REGION VIII, VON NOSTITZ, WHO WITH HIS AGGRESSIVE APPROACH HAS GOTTEN UNDER POLDEL' S SKIN.

3. SECOND PHASE OF POLDEL' S DELIVERY WAS GEARED TO IMPRESS EMBOFFS WITH SINCERITY OF POLDEL AND ITS GOVERNMENT TO ACHIEVE PEACE. WHEN EMBOFFS NOTED COMMUNIST ATTACKS ON TONG LE CHAN, TRI TON AND HONG NGU MUST BE PARTICULARLY EMBARRASSING FOR POLDEL - PARTICULARLY AS LATTER TWO ARE ICCS TEAM SITES, AND SUGGESTED POLES MIGHT CONSIDER ADVISING PRG TO BE SOMEWHAT LESS CONSPICUOUS IN ITS VIOLATIONS SINCE THESE THREE CASES WERE SO OBVIOUSLY AND WELL- KNOWN TO THE PRESS AND WORLD AT LARGE, POLDEL HINTED THAT IN NEXT SCHEDULED TALK WITH PRG AT CAMP DAVIS POLES WOULD BE DISCUSSING SOME OF THESE ISSUES AND WOULD BE ATTEMPTING TO EXERT ITS INFLUENCE. (UNLIKE HUNGARIANS IN REFTEL, POLES DID NOT EMPLOY EXCUSE THAT THEY LACKED INFLUENCE WITH PRG.)

4. CONCLUDING ON NOTE OF MODERATION AND COOPERATION, POLDEL EXPRESSED DESIRE TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH EMBOFFS ON MORE FREQUENT BASIS IN ORDER THAT POLDEL SIDE OF THE STORY COULD BE CONVEYED ON SPECIFIC ISSUES.

5. COMMENT: POINT OF SESSION FROM POLDEL VANTAGE WAS CLEARLY TO CONVEY TO EMBOFFS HOW UNFAIRLY POLDEL HAD BEEN REPORTED TO WASHINGTON, AND HOW IN FACT CANDEL IS THROWING SPANNER INTO THE WORKS OF THE ICCS. THE DIALOGUE DURING THE SESSION WAS NON- POLEMICAL, ALTHOUGH EMBOFFS CHALLENGED A NUMBER OF POLDEL POINTS, DEMANDING FOR EXAMPLE, EVIDENCE OF ANY CASE IN WHICH POLDEL HAD FOUND FAULT WITH BEHAVIOR OF DRV/ PRG.

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(POLDEL CLAIMED THERE HAD BEEN SUCH CASES, BUT COULD NOT RECALL ANY SPECIFIC INSTANCE.)

6. POLDEL CLAIMED IT HAD NOT RECEIVED FROM WARSAW GOP REACTION TO DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH' S PROTEST, BUT EXPECTED THAT IT WOULD BE APPRISED OF THIS REACTION UPON RETURN OF AMBASSADOR WASILEWSKI FROM WARSAW " IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS". WASILEWSKI LEFT SAIGON APRIL 5. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, POLDEL INTENDS TO TAKE CORRECTIVE MEASURES IN TERMS AT LEAST OF ATTEMPTING TO CONVEY TO EMBASSY ITS PERCEPTION OF POLDEL AND CANDEL PERFORMANCE. IT IS NOT UNLIKELY POLDEL WILL BE MORE SENSITIVE IN DAYS AHEAD TO NEED TO AVOID CONSPICUOUS OBSTRUCTIONISM AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. WHETHER SUBSTANTIVE CHANGE IN POLDEL PERFORMANCE EVOLVES, ONLY THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS WILL REVEAL.
WHITEHOUSE

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